

National Backgammon Circuit

COMPETITION ANNOUNCEMENT – 2018-19 EDITION ITALIAN CHAMPIONSHIP CNB

The Amateur Sports Association Circuito Nazionale Backgammon (CNB) is promoting the Italian Championship CNB 2018-19. Exceptionally, and for this edition only, the Championship will be held over the course of an 18-months period, from January 2018 to June 2019.

In order to participate in CNB tournaments and in the Italian Championship CNB 2018-19, you must register with the association itself and with ACSI (Italian Sports Union for All). Foreign and non-Italian resident players can also participate, if their registration enrollment is in order. Registration fee is €15.00 (fifteen), for a yearly membership card valid for the year 2018. A new card will be needed for the year 2019.

FORMAT

For this edition only, regular season points can be obtained in 11 (eleven) tournaments organized in different locations in Italy (national events) and, with different relative weights, in tournaments (local events), organized by each local club participating to the circuit: Bologna, Milan, Rome, Turin and Venice (maximum of 2 local events per club). Tournaments are played in three categories: Champion, Intermediate and Beginner/basic; for categories Champion and Intermediate there will be distinct rankings.

For Champion and Intermediate categories, for the overall ranking in order to access final playoffs, will be considered:

- National Events: best 9 results out of 11 available (Venice '18, Turin '18, Jesolo '18, Rimini '18, Rome '18, Varenna '18, Bologna '18, Venice '19, Turin '19, Jesolo '19 and Rimini '19);
- Open CNB Friday evening events: best 9 results out of 10 available;
- Sunday CNB events and local club tournaments: best 5 results out of 10 Sunday CNB events and 6 local club tournaments (Bologna, Milan, Rome, Turin, Venice and Montecarlo)

BEGINNER/basic CATEGORY

During national tournaments, for didactic purposes and as an introduction to the competitive phase, according to the number of participants, matches will be played with 'round robin' system

National Events

National tournament events will be held on the following dates:

1.	11/14 gennaio	Venezia	6° Venice Open
2.	02/04 marzo	Torino	27° Città di Torino
3.	27 aprile/1 maggio	Jesolo (VE)	18° Città di Jesolo
4.	21/24 giugno	Rimini	4° Summer Cup
5.	21/23 settembre	Roma	14° Rome Open
6.	22/25 ottobre	Varenna (LC)	13° Milan Open
7.	Novembre 2018	Bologna	6° Bologna Open
8.	Gennaio 2019	Venezia	7° Venice Open
9.	Marzo 2019	Torino	28° Città di Torino
10.	Aprile 2019	Jesolo (VE)	19° Città di Jesolo
11.	Giugno 2019	Rimini	5° Summer Cup

Local Events

Each of the above named clubs has the possibility of organizing up to one local tournament valid for Classification in CNB 2018-19. However, the following rules have been established and are compulsory for each participating club:

- a) All local tournaments must be disputed before the last national event (Rimini '19);
- b) There is no 'Standard' format for local events. Generally, tournaments are by direct elimination,

without consolation flight. If the event should foresee a consolation flight, points will be assigned only based on the results of the main flight.

c) A player may participate in local events without being registered with CNB. However, to compete for classification, the player must necessarily hold a valid membership card; at the time of enrolment, the player must state whether the points already acquired are to be inserted in the classification for the Champion or Intermediate category, after which points cannot be transferred from one category to another;

d) For an event to be valid, there must be a minimum of 16 or more players; in the case of 15 or fewer players, the event will be annulled, without any possibility of rescheduling.

Playoff

At the end of the regular season, the top 16 players in the champion category and the top 8 players in the intermediate category will be admitted to their respective final playoffs. The winner of the champion category will be declared Italian Champion CNB 2018-19. The winner of the intermediate category will be declared Italian Champion-Intermediate category CNB 2018-19.

Final classification in both categories will be calculated according to the following criteria:

- 1) Total points;
- 2) Highest number of points earned in national events;
- 3) Highest number of participations in national events;
- 4) Highest points earned in a single national event;
- 5) Second highest points earned in a national event, and so forth until all points earned in national events are considered;
- 6) Highest points earned in a single local event, and so forth.

Registration fees

In every national event registration fees in each category are as follows:

- Champion category: entry € 210.00, registration € 40.00
- Intermediate category: entry € 75.00, registration € 25.00
- Beginner category: entry € 10.00, registration free-of-charge
- Players under 21 years of age: no registration fee will be charged

Reserve Funds

The sum of €10 (ten) will be deducted from the entry fee of each player in the Champion category, and of €5.00 (five) for each player in the intermediate category, making up the prize pools for the respective final playoffs. The remainder of the entry fees (after the above deduction) will make up the prize pool for each event.

With regard to local events, the enrolment fee will be set by each organizing club, no fee will be payable to CNB, nor will any reserve funds for the playoffs be set aside.

No enrolment fee is required for participation in playoffs.

CHAMPION CATEGORY:

National Events

- The 11 (eleven) events of the Circuit will have a 'New double elimination' format.
- New Double elimination. This is a system of double elimination in which 8 players qualify for the final phase. This final phase is composed of 4 semifinalists from the principal flight called "main" and of 4 semifinalists from the secondary flight called "second chance". Defeated players in the main enter in progressive order into the 'second chance' flight, where they have a second possibility of participation in the final phase. The pairing of the 8 players at the beginning of the final phase is decided by draw. "Main" is played to 11 points, "second chance" to 9. Final phase is played to 11 -13 points and the final match to 15.
- Scoring (Single elimination). Participation: 3 points; for every match won: 9 points in main, 6 in consolation, 12 in final phase. Bonus of 9 points to players qualified for the final phase
- Time-controls: matches are disputed using digital clocks (Bronstein system) 12 seconds each move, 2 minutes each point.

- To be eligible for play-off players must have taken part in at least 5 (five) national events.

Local Events

- Scoring (single elimination). Participation: 1 point; for each match won in the main: 3 points; bonus main: winner 6 points, runner-up 4 points, semifinalists 2 points (for players who have won at least two matches).
- Scoring (Swiss rules). Participation: 1 point; for each match won: 1 point for each round played from the third (included) and upwards: 1 bonus point; bonus (to be divided among players having the same number of classification points): 8 points for the first, 6 points for the second, 4 points for the third, and two points for the fourth.
- Scoring (other formulas): organizing club will communicate scoring to CNB, who will verify the scoring system is in line with those generally used

PLAYOFFS

At the end of the circuit events, the top 16 players classified will dispute playoff matches valid for the title. Players from the 9th to the 16th place will dispute the first round, and the 9th player classified has the option of choosing his adversary among those who were classified from 13th to 16th place (and so forth, according to ranking).

Players from 5th to 8th place will dispute the round of 16, and the 5th has the option of choosing his adversary from the four players coming from the preceding rounds (and so forth, according to ranking). Players from 1st to 4th place will play the in the quarterfinals and the 1st player may choose among the 4 players coming from the preceding rounds (and so forth, according to ranking).

In the semifinal, the player with the best ranking in the regular season may choose his adversary from among the other semifinalists.

In addition to the final, a final for the 3rd/4th place will be played.

13 points will be played up to the round of sixteen, quarters and semifinals to 15 points, final matches to 17 points.

Matches will be played using digital clocks (Bronstein system) 12 seconds each move, 2 minutes each point.

The total of reserve funds forms the prize pool for playoffs. All prizes are awarded with the following structure: 50% to the winner, 30% to the runner-up, 20% to 3rd place.

INTERMEDIATE CATEGORY

National events

- The seven circuit events are played in qualification brackets with playoff and consolation, predetermined according to the number of participants in the tournament. The matches played in qualification brackets are to 7 points for round robins up to 6 players, to 5 point with 7 players or more. Playoff matches are to 7 points up to quarter finals, to 9 in semifinals, to 11 in the final match. Consolation matches are to 5 points up to semifinals, the final match to 7 points. When needed, tournament director has the option to request the match to be played with the clock (12 seconds each move, total minutes depending on the current score)
- To decide in the case of a tie, the following criteria will be adopted in this order: direct match/ table where only head-to-head results between players with the same total points are considered, Sonneborn-Berger Neustadt! (see below). Only in the case of a further tie, for matches won by each player during all of the qualification rounds with scores of 7 to 6, 0.9 points instead of 1 full point will be assigned to the winner, and the players defeated with a score of 6 to 7 will be assigned an extra 0.1 point. In the case of a tie among three players, and using the above criteria, only when the best or the worst of the three can be determined, to break the tie between the two remaining players, direct confrontation is to be used.
- Note 1: the Sonneborn-Berger Neustadt! system foresees that for each player who is tied in classification, the sum of all the points earned by the defeated adversaries will be accredited. Whoever has the most points is considered to be the best qualified.
- Note 2: Tie breaker won't be considered if tie positions are not determining for the playoffs, but only to determine, for example, the first, second or third position in a single bracket. In this case, if the Sonneborn-Berger (Neustadt!) system cannot break the tie, then positions will be determined by draw.

- Scoring. Participations: 3 points; for every match won in the event: 6 points in brackets of 5 players; 5 points in brackets of 6 players, 4.5 points in brackets of 7 players; for the playoff scoreboard each victory counts: 6 points in the quarterfinals, 8 in the semifinals and 10 in the final match; for the consolation scoreboard each victory counts: 1 point in the first round, 2 points in the round of 16, 3 points in the quarterfinals, 5 points in the semifinals and 7 points in the final match.
- Valid events. All points earned in national events will count towards final classification
- To be eligible for classification, players must have taken part in at least 5 national events.

Local Events

- Scoring (single elimination). Participation: 1 point; for each match won in the main: 3 points; bonus main: winner 6 points, runner-up 4 points, semifinalists 2 points (for players who have won at least two matches).
- Scoring (Swiss rules). Participation: 1 point; for each match won: 1 point for each round played from the third (included) and upwards: 1 bonus point; bonus (to be divided among players having the same number of classification points): 8 points for the first, 6 points for the second, 4 points for the third, and two points for the fourth.
- Scoring (other formulas): organizing club will communicate scoring to CNB, who will verify the scoring system is in line with those generally used

PLAYOFF

At the end of the regular season, the top 8 players in the ranking will dispute playoffs valid for the title. The player classified 5th will choose his adversary between the 7th and 8th placed player. The 6th placed player will play against the one remaining. In the quarterfinals, the player classified 3rd will choose his adversary from one of the winner of the previous round. The 4th placed player will play against the one remaining. In the semifinal, the player placed 1st will choose his adversary from one of the winners of the preceding turn and the 2nd placed player will play against the other. Semifinals will be played to 11 points, the final match to 13 points. Matches are played with digital clock (same settings as Champion category). The total of reserve funds will form the prize pool for the playoffs. All prizes are awarded according to the following price structure: 2/3 to the winner and 1/3 to the runner-up.

TOURNAMENT RULES

Tournament rules are the same for all events and can be found at www.cnbackgammon.eu and in tournament venues. Please also note that:

- In every tournament the scheduled dinner breaks and timetable of following day's matches will be posted.
- Any player who wishes to leave the playing area must previously notify the Tournament Director and must be reachable by telephone, otherwise a penalty in points will be imposed (up to complete elimination from the tournament).
- The awarding of prizes will take place ONLY during "Official Prize-giving".
- All prizes are awarded according to current rules regarding sports associations; amounts above € 1.000 will be assigned by nominative cheque or bank transfer.